



Council Study Meeting
June 20, 2016
6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Agenda

1. Presentation from the Des Moines Metro Opera
2. Update regarding status of shallow pool at Veteran's Memorial Aquatic Center
3. Presentation of the quarterly budget review and discussion concerning the FY 2018 budget process
4. Other items

Information

Subject

Presentation from the Des Moines Metro Opera

Information

City Council Study Meeting

2.

Meeting Date: 06/20/2016

Information

Subject

Update regarding status of shallow pool at Veteran's Memorial Aquatic Center

Information

In your packet is a memo from Jeff Lucas, Recreation Director, regarding the status of the shallow pool at the Veteran's Memorial Aquatic Center.

Jeff will attend the meeting to answer questions.

Attachments

Memo



PARKS AND RECREATION

TO: Ryan Waller

FROM: Jeff Lucas

DATE: June 16, 2016

RE: Status of Shallow Pool at Veteran's Memorial Aquatic Center

On Wednesday, June 15, the Memorial Building Commission met at the Aquatic Center to discuss and review the shallow pool. First and foremost, the Commission understands the importance of the shallow pool to the overall operation of the facility.

Two things are certain. 1) We have found holes and tears in recirculation system piping; 2) There are more leaks throughout the shallow pool piping.

Crews have been spot drilling all three main lines that feed treated/cleaned water into the shallow pool. All three sections of piping will not hold water, meaning we have multiple leaks, more than just the leaks we've visibly identified.

FAQ's

Question 1 - *Why so many leaks?*

Answer - After reviewing sections of piping, the contractor's educated guess is poor rock material, and not enough depth of rock. The combination of not enough rock base, and acidic soil coming into contact with the piping, has literally eaten the piping in many areas. Combine those factors, with 20 Iowa winters of freezing and thawing, and we get to where we are today.

Question 2 - *Why didn't you find the leaks sooner?*

Answer - Two part answer

a. The process of filling the pool, and operating the recirculation system, was hindered by a malfunctioning "check valve."

The recirculation system is operated by one pump. That pump needs "primed" to operate. There has to be a substantial amount of water in the pool to prime that pump. The check valve keeps water in the pump's piping. The check valve would not close, which in turn would not allow the pump to be primed. The check valve is located under 8 feet of water, therefore the pool had to be drained and the check valve was replaced.



b. In general, the "leak detection" process is time consuming. We filled the main drain, it held water. We filled the entire gutter system, it held water. We filled the shallow pool vessel again. It still leaked. Therefore, we went with the least costly repair - recaulking the concrete seams and concrete patch work. We still had leaks. Therefore, the recirculation system, located underground, was the culprit. Crews were brought in to pressurize piping, and listening devices were brought in by Des Moines Water Works. Crews began breaking concrete to find the leak(s). All three main lines that flow treated/cleaned water into the shallow pool still would not hold water. Meaning we had more major issues at hand. We stopped our efforts in drilling and cutting concrete and decided to meet as a group to determine a plan of action.

The Commission met last night to discuss three basic options for the shallow pool.

1. Fix the leaks we have found and re-pour the concrete.
2. Remove all piping, replace, and re-pour concrete.
3. Remove all concrete and all piping (totally new surface and new piping).

After much discussion, the Memorial Building Commission unanimously recommended Option #2, based on two main principles. A) cost effectiveness, B) ensuring no more leaks for many years. This option would close the shallow pool for the entire 2016 season. The construction timeline was recommended to begin first thing after the Aquatic Center closes for the 2016 season (August 21). Option #2 would take 4-5 weeks to complete.

In addition to Option #2, Commission recommended completing soil and core sampling this fall to identify and mitigate any future large pool piping, soil, or rock issues.



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3.

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Presentation of the quarterly budget review and discussion concerning the FY 2018 budget process

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